HIGHLIGHTS OF SELF EMPLOYMENT OF ETHNOCULTURAL GROUPS IN CANADA

Report 4: German, Italian, Jewish, Polish, Ukrainian and Dutch Groups in Selected Industries (in Canada, Ontario, Toronto)

Submitted to
Multiculturalism Canada

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A. INTRODUCTION TO REPORT 4

The highlights presented in the following pages are all derived from special tabulations provided by Statistics Canada from the 1981 Census. The focus here is on Canada, Ontario, and Toronto.(1) Eight industry categories are examined in comparison to each other and to all other industries grouped together. The eight industry categories are the following divisions of the Standard Industrial Classification (1970):

- Division 4: Mining (Including Milling), Quarries, and Oil Industries
- Division 5: Manufacturing Industries
- Division 6: Construction Industry
- Division 7: Transportation, Communication and Other Utilities
- Division 8: Trade (Wholesale and Retail)
- Division 9: Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
- Division 10: Community, Business and Personal Service Industries
- Division 11: Public Administration and Defence.

Other industrial divisions which were grouped together are: Division 1 (Agriculture), Division 2 (Forestry), and Division 3 (Fishing and Trapping).

The ethnic origin categories that are examined in this report are six groupings:

1. German
2. Italian
3. Jewish
4. Polish
5. Ukrainian
6. Dutch.

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(1) The definition of Toronto as used in this report is the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area, as defined by Statistics Canada.

Self employed persons of the above ethnic origins are compared, in the highlights, to the labour force in general. All those who reported being self employed in the 1981 Census are included in the definition of "self employment".

In some of the tables used for the analysis in this report, figures in sub-categories do not always exactly add up to the indicated totals. This is due to rounding in sub-categories by Statistics Canada. When small numbers are involved, say 200 persons or less, this could mean significant statistical discrepancy. In the large majority of cases, however, there is no discrepancy.

B. HIGHLIGHTS

1. CANADA

Differences In Self Employment of Ethnic Groups

- In Canada as a whole, the ethnic groups examined in this report all have self employment levels the same or higher than the Canadian average.(1)

- In general, 9 out of every 100 Italian and Polish participants, respectively, in the Canadian labour force are self employed. This figure is exactly the same as the Canadian average.

- Ukrainians have about 11 self employed persons out of every 100 persons, and Germans and Dutch both have about 13 self employed persons out of every 100.

- The group which has the highest relative number of self employed persons are the Jews. In Canada, out of every 100 Jewish participants in the labour force about 21 are self employed.

- In actual number comparisons, the ethnic group (of those groups examined in this report) with the highest number of self employed persons is the Germans. Germans make up about 11 per cent of all self employed persons in Canada.

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(1) Self employed persons as defined here are all those who reported being self employed and incorporated without paid help, self employed and incorporated with paid help, self employed and unincorporated without paid help, and self employed and unincorporated with paid help.

- Self employed Italians, Ukrainians and Dutch, each make up 4 per cent, respectively, of the total self employed population of Canada.

- Next are the Jews with 3 per cent of the total self employed population.

- Polish self employed persons make up 2 per cent of the total self employed population of Canada.

Ethnic Participation in Different Industries

- If self employment within the different industrial categories is examined separately for each ethnic group, respectively, there emerges some clear differences between the groups. For example, the Dutch, Poles, Ukrainians and Germans have a relatively high proportion of their self employed persons preoccupied in the 'other' category which groups Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing and Trapping industries together. About 40 per cent of self employed persons in each of these ethnic groups are in this 'other' category.

- On the other hand, only 5 per cent of self employed Italians and 1 per cent of self employed Jews are in this category.

- The industrial category with the largest proportion of self employed Italians and self employed Jews, in both cases, is the Business and Personal Services category.(1) Almost 43 per cent of self employed Jews and 30 per cent of self employed Italians are in this category.

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(2) This includes education and related services, health and welfare, religious organizations, amusement and recreation, services to business management, personal services, accommodation and food, and other miscellaneous services.

- Italians have relatively the highest representation in the Construction industry in Canada. About 26 per cent of self employed Italians are in this industry, whereas the comparable figure for all groups in Construction is 13 per cent of all self employed Canadians.

- Self employed Dutch and Germans also have relatively above average participation in the Construction industry -- with about 17 per cent of the Dutch and 16 per cent of the German self employed persons in this industry.

- On the other hand, self employed Jews, Poles and Ukrainians all have relatively less than the average participation in Construction.

- Another example of differences in industry participation, between the different ethnic groups examined in this report, is indicated in the Trade (wholesale and retail) industries. On the high side, are the Italians and Jews, with 24 per cent and 31 per cent of self employed persons in these ethnic groups, respectively, involved in Trade industries. On the low side, are the Germans, Poles, Ukrainians and Dutch, all of which have relatively less participation in these industries, in comparison to the Canadian average -- about 20 per cent of all self employed Canadians are involved in Trade industries.

- There is an evenness in the relative participation, of all ethnic groups examined in this report, in the Transportation, Communications and other Utilities industrial category. All have about 4 per cent of their self employed populations, respectively, involved in this category -- which also conforms to the Canadian average participation in this category.

- In the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate industrial category, the Jews have the highest relative proportion of participation of self employed persons. Almost 6 per cent of all self employed Jews are involved in this industrial category. This is in comparison to about 2 per cent of all Canadian self employed persons. Germans, Italians, Poles, Ukrainians and Dutch all have the same relative proportion of self employed persons in this category as the overall Canadian figure.

2. ONTARIO

Differences In Self Employment of Ethnic Groups

- In Ontario, the ethnic groups examined in this report all have self employment levels about the same or higher than the Ontario average.

- In general, 7 out of every 100 Polish and Ukrainian participants in the Ontario labour force, respectively, are self employed. This figure is slightly less than the Ontario average of 8 in every 100.

- Italians have about 9 self employed persons out of every 100 persons, and Germans and Dutch have 10 and 13 self employed persons out of every 100, respectively.

- The group which has the highest relative number of self employed persons in Ontario are the Jews. In Ontario, out of every 100 Jewish participants in the labour force about 22 are self employed.

- In actual number comparisons, the ethnic group (of those groups examined in this report) with the highest number of self employed persons in Ontario is the Germans. Germans make up about 9 per cent of all self employed persons in Ontario.

- Self employed Italians make up 7 per cent of the total self employed population of Ontario.

- Next of the groups examined here are the Jews and the Dutch with 5 per cent each of the total self employed population in Ontario.

- Polish and Ukrainian self employed persons make up 2 per cent each of the total self employed population of Ontario.

Ethnic Participation in Different Industries

- As is the case for Canada in general, if self employment within the different industrial categories is examined separately in Ontario, for each ethnic group, respectively, there emerges some clear differences between the groups. For example, the Dutch and Germans have a relatively high proportion of their self employed persons preoccupied in the 'other' category which groups Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing and Trapping industries together. About 42 per cent of self employed Dutch persons, and 28 per cent of self employed Germans, are in this category.

- On the other hand, only 4 per cent of self employed Italians and 1 per cent of self employed Jews are in this category.

- The industrial category with the largest proportion of self employed Italians and self employed Jews, in both cases, is the Business and Personal Services category. About 48 per cent of self employed Jews and 30 per cent of self employed Italians are in this category.

- Unlike the overall Canadian figures, the Poles and Ukrainians also have a relatively high proportion of self employed persons in Ontario. In both cases almost 40 per cent of labour force participants are self employed.

- Again, as in the case for Canada as a whole, Italians have relatively the highest representation in the Construction industry in Ontario. About 28 per cent of self employed Italians are in this industry, whereas the comparable figure for <u>all</u> ethnic groups in Construction is 13 per cent of all self employed Ontarians.

- Self employed Dutch and Germans also have relatively above average participation in the Construction industry -- with about 16 per cent of the Dutch and 15 per cent of the German self employed persons in this industry.

- Another example of differences in industry participation, between the different ethnic groups examined in this report, is indicated in the Trade (wholesale and retail) industries. On the high side, are the Jews with 28 per cent of self employed persons in this group involved in Trade industries. On the low side, are the Germans and Dutch, both of which have relatively less participation in these industries, in comparison to the Ontario average -- about 21 per cent of all self employed Ontarians are involved in Trade industries.

- As is the case for Canada in general, there is an evenness in the relative participation, of all ethnic groups examined in this report, in the Transportation, Communications and other Utilities industrial category. All have about 3 to 4 per cent of their self employed populations, respectively, involved in this category -- which also conforms to the Ontario average participation in this category.

- In the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate industrial category, the Jews have the highest relative proportion of participation of self employed persons. Almost 7 per cent of all self employed Jews are involved in this industrial category in Ontario. This is in comparison to about 3 per cent of all Ontario self employed persons. Germans, Italians, Poles, Ukrainians and Dutch all have about the same relative proportion of self employed persons in this category as the overall Ontario figure.

3. TORONTO

Differences In Self Employment of Ethnic Groups

- In Toronto, the ethnic groups examined in this report all have self employment levels the same or higher than the Toronto average.

- In general, 7 out of every 100 Ukrainian and Polish participants in the Toronto labour force, respectively, are self employed. This figure is exactly the same as the Toronto average.

- The Dutch have about 8 self employed persons out of every 100 persons, and Germans and Italians both have about 9 self employed persons out of every 100.

- The group which has the highest relative number of self employed persons are the Jews. In Toronto, out of every 100 Jewish participants in the labour force about 22 are self employed. This conforms with the comparable figure for Canada in general and for Ontario.

- In actual number comparisons, the ethnic group (of those groups examined in this report) with the highest number of self employed persons is the Italians. Italians make up about 13 per cent of all self employed persons in Toronto.

- Next of the groups examined here are the Jews with 12 per cent of the total self employed population of Toronto.

- Self employed Germans make up 6 per cent of the total self employed population of Toronto.

- Polish, Ukrainian and Dutch self employed persons in Toronto each make up 2 per cent, respectively, of the total self employed population of Toronto.

Ethnic Participation in Different Industries

- As is the case for Canada and Ontario in general, if self employment within the different industrial categories is examined separately for each ethnic group, respectively, there emerges some clear differences in Toronto between the groups.

- The clearest example of these differences is in the Construction industry. 31 per cent of self employed Italians are in the Construction industry. This is in comparison to the next highest figure of 17 per cent of self employed Germans in Construction. At the low end are the Jews with 5 per cent of self employed Jews in Construction.

- Another example of differences is in Manufacturing where, at the high end, 13 per cent of self employed Germans are involved. This is in comparison to the participation, at the low end, of about 6 per cent of self employed Ukrainians and 7 per cent of self employed Poles.

- As is the case for Canada and Ontario in general, participation in the Business and Personal Services industries in Toronto is quite high for all ethnic groups included in this report. Generally, for these groups, over 35 per cent of all self employed persons are involved in Business and Personal Services -- the exception being the Italians with 28 per cent of self employed Italians being involved. On the high end, 50 per cent of self employed Ukrainians, 49 per cent of self employed Poles, and 48 per cent of self employed Jews are involved in these industries.